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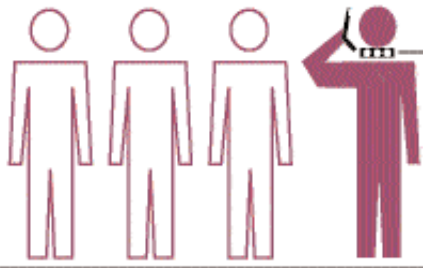
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Spotlight on Staffing Agencies

One of the best ways to find a new job, whether temporary or permanent, is through a staffing agency. And luckily, the New Haven area is home to some of the best in the staffing business in the state.

Diversified Employment Services, with offices in New Haven, Shelton and Wallingford, is one well respected and widely known choice.

The fact that the agency has been in existence since 1970 speaks volumes about its success.

For almost 40 years, Diversified has been helping businesses and organizations in Connecticut with their staffing needs and requirements. They are the longest standing independent full-service staffing firm servicing New Haven, Fairfield, and Hartford counties.

Diversified is a true full-service staffing agency that specializes in temporary office support, technical, light industrial, contract staffing, temp-to-hire, payroll, and permanent placement

Bill DeRosa, president and general manager of all three locations, began the company and he knows that it's important to change as the job market changes.

"As the market changes and demands change, we began to see more temporaries and that is when our business grew," he says. "When we saw need in the light industrial field, we grew into that also."

"Contrary to public opinion, there is a demand for qualified workers in the marketplace," DeRosa says. "The hardest positions to fill right now are for CNC Operators in manufacturing. It's a skilled and educated trade and each year, there are fewer CNC operators employed across the country. Through attrition, the number of people available to work is diminishing quickly."

DeRosa is also looking for Administrative Assistants with supreme skills with Microsoft Excel, Word, Powerpoint and other technology.

"We also need candidates with a good attitude and a great work ethic," DeRosa says.

Talent Tree in West Haven—and at www.talenttree.com—also fills Light Industrial positions as well as those in office support, clerical, machine operators and quality control.

West Haven Talent Tree's Director

Rose Tyler says she always has clients with a need for warehouse staff as well as those who work in packing, shipping, receiving and similar jobs.

"When a job seeker comes to Talent Tree, he or she feels that they're using a valuable tool to help in their job search," Tyler says.

Talent Tree interviews every day without appointment, between 9 and 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

"When they come to the door during those hours, we'll get started right away," Tyler says. At that point, she'll have the applicant fill out an application and iron out the details of proof of identification and the ability to work.

"Then we sit down and speak with them and make sure they're heading on the right course," she says. "Quite often we'll have something they can step into immediately, so it's in our best interest to get all of the logistics taken care of right away."

Before the agency became a Talent Tree location, it was called Admiral Staffing and was in business since 1982. Aside from a new employee who joined Talent Tree in October, the other staff members have been with Tyler for at least 10 years.

"There is a comfort factor in the relationships we have with our clients and the applicants," Tyler says.

The staff at A.R. Mazzotta Employment Specialists is also well known for providing outstanding service to job seekers. A.R. Mazzotta takes the job hunt process one step further for you by considering your qualifications and matching you with a suitable employer. For over 30 years, A.R. Mazzotta has been dedicated to making matches in the workplace. Whether you're looking for a permanent position or prefer temporary or temp-to-hire placement, A.R. Mazzotta's staffing agents do their utmost to find the right job for job hunters.

As Mal Weiner, senior manager of the firm, says, "We have been in business for over 30 years and all of our managers have been with the company for a very long time and they all have extensive previous industry experience."

"We know Connecticut very well and we know what candidates like, what companies like, and how to make a perfect fit. We think it's important to

specialize in the local area as opposed to diversifying with a big marketplace. With concentration on the local market, we know what the trends are and what the details of hiring are like," Weiner says.

She is looking for qualified candidates who are seeking to make a career change, or temporary workers who are looking to work a specific period of time. Specific job openings are listed at www.armazzotta.com.

"We're generalists and that means we cover everything from management level to receptionist and we do permanent placement as well as temp-to-hire and temp," she says.

With offices in Wallingford, Westbrook and Middletown, they are large enough to provide job seekers with a wide range of available jobs at all skill levels, yet small enough to give the quality of service and personal attention job seekers deserve.

When Lisa Stockwell opened Express Personnel in North Haven a few years back, she wanted to put her past—and quite extensive—experience in human resources to work. She knows that running a staffing agency means helping people achieve their goals.

She notes that one of the things Express prides itself on is finding a good match.

"We don't place people in jobs just to place them. We make matches that will benefit the employer and the job seeker," she says. To Stockwell, an intensive interview process does not mean questioning in a grueling and intimidating fashion.

Whether you are starting a new career, re-entering the workforce or looking to supplement your income, Express Personnel has the resources to



Staffing agencies such as Hamilton Connection are a perfect way to find a perfect job.

match you with a job that fits your desires and abilities. From the office to the executive suite to the warehouse, Express can empower you to find a job that meets your needs. Full-time, part-time and flexible work schedules are available.

For more information about Express Personnel's North Haven office and the 500-plus other locations across the country, please visit www.expresspersonnel.com.

Hamilton Connection has a long history of dedication to its clients and employees. Since 1986, this firm has remained committed to the welfare and well-being of its customers. Hamilton Connection's long-term objective is the continuous development of strong relationships with clients and employees to the benefit of everyone involved. Every client, large or small, is considered an important part of the Hamilton family. Every employee is considered a mem-

ber of the company team. Hamilton Connection's success as a company has been built on the recognition of the contributions made by each of its employees.

The staff at Hamilton Connection works strives to provide great opportunities for candidates and provides clients with the most professional and cost effective solutions to their hiring needs.

Today, Hamilton Connection remains a full-service diversified staffing firm. The Light Industrial Division now operates from offices throughout Connecticut and Western Massachusetts. Meanwhile, the Technical Staffing Group continues to excel in direct hire recruiting of IT professionals, engineers, scientists, quality assurance personnel and management positions.

For more information, please visit www.hamiltonconnection.com.

-Melissa Everett

Healthcare Snapshot: Harborside Healthcare

With nine locations across the state of Connecticut, Harborside Healthcare is one of the most respected nursing and long-term care companies in the United States. Harborside Healthcare offers a full range of quality programs and services to meet the critical needs of patients, residents and their families. This organization's mission is to deliver the best possible quality care for its residents and patients in a caring, comfortable environment.

Harborside and its affiliates operate more than 60 facilities, serving more than 7,500 friends and neighbors in nine states: Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Ohio, and Rhode Island.

Locally, Harborside Healthcare's Madison House is a skilled nursing and rehabilitation center that provides short-term and extended care with nearly 90 residents and 124 dedicated employees. Eighty-three percent of families of residents surveyed called the quality of life good or excellent,



and more than three-quarters believe the overall quality of services is good. More than four of five families would send a loved one to Harborside Healthcare - Madison House again. The staff at Madison House stresses the importance of supporting recovery. After surgery, illness, or treatment for a serious medical condition, many people need continued therapy to increase strength, stamina, and safety; gain their highest level of function; and maintain their recovered independence.

Madison House's Outpatient Service Center is the perfect place to receive that rehabilitation care. The fully equipped Center provides a comprehensive array of rehabilitation services to people who can continue their recovery at home. Our interdisciplinary team provides occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language services, upon referral from - and in partnership with - a physician.

Harborside Healthcare's outpatient programs are delivered by experienced rehabilitationists. Together, this team of qualified rehabilitation specialists will assess a person's current level of function, set realistic goals, and create

an individual care plan to help each individual meet these goals.

Madison House offers a full range of services for people recovering from total joint replacements, orthopedic disorders, neurological disorders, strokes, cardiopulmonary conditions, fractures, amputations, musculoskeletal disorders, surgery, and wounds.

In Trumbull, Harborside Healthcare's St. Joseph's Manor is a Catholic skilled nursing care facility dedicated to serving the aged and infirm, and was founded on The Carmelite philosophy of Mother Angeline Teresa. St. Joseph's Manor provides the very best care for residents' physical needs while their spiritual needs are also met. A skilled team of health care providers works alongside the pastoral care department of clergy members to preserve the dignity and quality of life of all the residents under their care.

St. Joseph's Manor joined Harborside Healthcare in 2006. Harborside formed a partnership with the diocese of Bridgeport to provide world class healthcare while maintaining the catholic identity and mission of the center. The Diocese remains an important part of life in the center, providing for the pastoral and spiritual needs of the catholic residents.

St. Joseph's Manor is well known

for its innovative Lighthouse Dementia Program which focuses on long-term care of people with dementia who deserve to live with dignity and choice. The Lighthouse Secured Program provides residents with a place to live where safety and security are of paramount importance in an atmosphere that supports individualized care and activity based programs.

Residents are the center of a daily schedule that is consistent and structured to minimize both confusion and anxiety. The staff strives to provide a regular routine in all areas of care and programming, providing the resident and their family with the comfort of familiarity and a sense of well being.

Residents are supported to achieve their highest possible level of independence by caring and capable staff. The activity-based approach used by the Lighthouse program team encourages the resident to actively participate in their own life, with the flexibility to accommodate personal choice. Through individualized care plans, staff works as a team with the family to support the resident in a warm and positive environment, promoting quality of life and preserving dignity.

Lighthouse staff members are all trained, caring professionals who are

interested in caring for people diagnosed with dementia. Staff training is conducted during orientation and continues quarterly. The Lighthouse team is vigilant about maintaining and expanding their knowledge, skills and competency in the dementia field. Each caregiver in the program makes a personal commitment to uphold the program's philosophy.

Because Alzheimer's and related forms of dementia affect a range of intellectual, physical and emotional functions, the Lighthouse Program provides resident-centered care through an interdisciplinary team of caregivers. The team includes a programming coordinator, licensed nurses, nursing assistants, therapist, social services personnel, a dietician and activities staff. We also consider our families to be equal partners in all aspects of care, encouraging active participation in planning and activity programs.

For more information about how to join the staff at one Harborside Healthcare's local locations, please visit www.harborsidehealthcare.com. Those interested in employment must fill out an application in person at the facility of interest.